

SUNY Retirees Service Corps
Notes from Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 30, 2009
SUNY Plaza, Albany

Meeting Attendance

Tom Wolff, Jim Kalas, Carl Wiezalis, Curtis Lloyd, Ram Chugh, Curtis Lloyd, Carol Donato, Pierre Radimak.
Guests: Barry Culhane, President, Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) Board;
Roger Anunsen & Michael Patterson of mindRAMP & Associates (via phone).

Opening Remarks: Tom Wolff welcomed everyone present and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

Discussion with Barry Culhane: Ram introduced AROHE President Barry Culhane and thanked him for his taking time for coming to Albany to meet with the members of the RSC Executive Committee. Barry has been at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) for many years and he currently serves as an Executive Assistant to the RIT President. Barry is a founding member of AROHE. He applauded the RSC for the steps it has taken since its inception, saying the organization has done everything right so far. This includes opening membership to retired faculty and staff rather than faculty alone and marketing the program to all campuses. He said the next phase of the RSC website – a retiree directory and volunteer clearinghouse database – and future collaborative efforts will effectively make the RSC a confederation of campus retiree programs and retirees themselves, with the RSC serving as a facilitator in support of campus efforts. Barry made several suggestions regarding promotion and programming for the RSC conference on November 12. He also offered the support of AROHE to RSC and its member campuses. The Advisory Council members thanked Barry for his coming to the meeting and for the pledge of AROHE support.

Planning for November 12 conference program

- **Review of the draft program:** Committee members reviewed and discussed the draft prepared by Ram. It was decided that the November 12 event should be promoted as a conference rather than a symposium.
- **Theme of the conference:** The Executive Committee was provided with several potential conference themes which would also serve as the event title. The committee members will each forward their recommendation to Ram, who will incorporate the theme into the conference program and cover letter to campus presidents (see below). The Committee agreed to focus on two of the six broad conference objectives suggested by Ram: (1) Create awareness about the potential value of retirees as a valuable resource – growing recognition that “aging is an asset”; and (2) Develop strategies for promoting retirees programs at SUNY Campuses – programs which help retirees stay connected with each other, with their campuses and with their communities.
- **Location:** The conference will be held at SUNY System Administration in Albany, in the large courtroom of the former Federal Building.
- **Marketing:** Ram said plans are to market the conference to campus presidents, campus HR directors, campus business officers and various organizations such as the University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, UUP, CSEA and NYSUT. We will use every means available to publicize the conference to SUNY campuses and retirees.
- **Announcement letter to campus presidents:** A letter will be sent to presidents requesting that they each send a staff representative and retiree to the conference to represent their institution. Campus HR directors and Business Officers will be copied on the correspondence, which will be sent under Chancellor Zimpher’s or Curtis Lloyd’s signature. A conference program brochure and registration form will be sent with each letter.
- **Attendance:** Our target attendance is 100 people. The conference location can accommodate up to 120 people.
- **Conference budget:** Curtis Lloyd indicated that he has set aside \$5,000 for this conference and the University Faculty Senate also offered to provide financial support to help pay for the event, including

travel for the speakers and panelists. A small registration fee of \$15 will be charged to cover the cost of lunch and refreshments.

- **Speakers:** The Executive Committee had a very productive phone conversation with Roger Anunsen and Michael Patterson of mindRAMP & Associates and endorsed them as possible conference speakers. Michael is co-founder and principal in the firm. Roger is an internationally recognized leader in the field of Aging and Memory and a principal in mindRAMP & Associates. He will serve as the conference keynote speaker.
- **Logistics:** Pierre Radimak and Carol Donato will provide Ram with logistical support in organizing the conference. They will work with Maggie Clairmont, as well.

The following topics were briefly discussed:

- Membership issues
- Transmission of Retirees web page to campuses
- Staff Support
- SUNY ID card for retirees

The Executive Council meeting ended at 3:00 p.m.